

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE HERITAGE PRESERVATION COMMISSION
CITY OF SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA
Lower Level – Room 40, City Hall/Court House, 15 West Kellogg Boulevard
April 9, 2009

Present: Pat Igo, Paul Larson, John Manning, Lee Meyer, Mark Thomas, Steve Trimble, Diane Trout-Oertel

Absent: Carol Carey (excused), Susan Foote (excused), Dick Faricy (excused), April Haas (excused), Carole Kralicek (excused)

Staff Present: Amy Spong, Christine Boulware

BUSINESS MEETING

CALL TO ORDER: 5:03 PM by John Manning (Chair)

I. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA - Approved as submitted. Larson, Trout-Oertel (6-0)

II. CONFLICT OF INTEREST – None stated

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – Approved as submitted. Trout-Oertel, Larson (6-0)

- A. February 12, 2009 Business Meeting
- B. March 12, 2009 Business Meeting
- C. March 26, 2009 Public Hearing

IV. CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

V. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. The City Council approved the DSI budget resolution and HPC staff will be moving from DSI to PED. Staff will meet with Bob Kessler on April 20 to discuss the move in more detail.
- B. March Design Review Statistics (submitted in packet)

VI. HISTORIC RESOURCE REVIEW

VII. PERMIT REVIEW/PUBLIC HEARING

- A. **754 Seventh Street East**, Dayton’s Bluff Historic District, by Signminds Inc. for a sign permit to install two wall signs with channel letters and replace the faces on the roof sign to read “O’Reilly Auto Parts.” File #09-013.

Staff read the report recommending partial approval of the application. Shelly Rees from Signminds was present to discuss the application. She stated that they couldn’t remove the roof sign without damaging the roof. Commissioner Larson suggest removing the sign, but leaving the three pyramid shaped posts that attach it to the roof. Ms. Rees stated she would need to get on the roof and look at the materials and condition. **Commissioner Trimble motioned to approve the application with staff recommendations. Commissioner Meyer seconded the motion.** There was discussion about how the current signs were approved. Staff noted they were installed without a permit and approved after-the-fact by non-preservation staff. **The motion passed 7-0.**

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Central Corridor update, by Metropolitan Council, will focus on changes within the University-Raymond and Lowertown Historic Districts.

Alicia Vap, CCPO, discussed University Avenue Streetscape design. University Avenue station design will be described in more detail at a future meeting.

Commissioner Larson encouraged working with staff through the design process so the HPC will not be in a yea/nay situation.

Staff has met with SHPO to discuss improvements in the station design to benefit current and future historic districts.

Commissioner Trout-Oertel expressed concern about the concrete barriers.

Commissioner Thomas added that a metal railing on top would add to the continuity.

Ms. Vap discussed the baseline and betterment plans.

Donna Drummond from PED was present to participate in the discussion and answer questions as needed.

Commissioners Trout-Oertel, Meyer and Larson agreed that the designs should be low-key and minimal.

Staff noted the need to maintain the warehouse/utilitarian flavor of the University-Raymond Historic District.

Rita Rodriguez, CCPO - coordinating the public art component, discussed the process and the timeline and explained there will be final plan presentations in July. She added that some of the artist that were chosen are local.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A.** 3M Report – Commissioner Trimble explained the 106 Group is conducting most of the historic work and reuse study. Community meetings will not only be once a month through November or December. The history group will only meet in response to materials that require review. The redevelopment is being posed as jobs vs. preservation instead of realizing they are very much related. Commissioner Larson reminded that this is new territory for the Port Authority.
- B.** The Awards Committee will meet next week and again on April 27. The dead line for submissions is April 20.

X. ADJOURN - 6:35

Submitted by: Christine Boulware